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**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No.: PD-200305  
Customer No.: 020991

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Steve Thompson et al.  
Application No.: 09/975,051  
Filed: October 11, 2001  
For: A System and Method for Controlling  
Interference Affecting Satellite Terminals  
in a Satellite Communications Network by  
Establishing and Using Virtual Cells which  
are Independent of the Cells Formed by the  
Spot Beams Generated by the Satellite

Group Art Unit:  
Examiner:  
Date: November 28, 2001

**RESPONSE TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

☒ Transmitted herewith are a Response, Drawing Change Authorization Request, and Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ Applicants Petition for a Two-Month Extension of time, and authorize payment of the petition fee of \$390 to Deposit Account No. 50-0383.

☒ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

The fee for claims is calculated below.

	CLAIMS AS AMENDED				ADDITIONAL FEE
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	24	24	0	\$ 18.00 =	\$ 0
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3	3	0	\$ 80.00 =	\$ 0
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS				\$ 260.00 =	\$
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>					<b>\$ 0</b>

Please charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383.

Respectfully submitted,

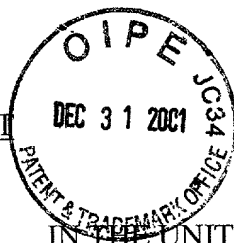
Craig L. Plastrik  
Reg. No. 41,254

Hughes Electronics Corporation  
Bldg. 001, M.S. A109  
P.O. Box 956  
El Segundo, CA 90245-0956  
301-428-7172

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on November 28, 2001.

Ginger Fogle

PATENT



Case Docket No.: PD-200305

Customer No.: 020991

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Steven Thompson et al.

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Application Serial No. 09/975,051

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: October 11, 2001

For: A System and Method for Controlling  
Interference Affecting Satellite Terminals  
in a Satellite Communications Network by  
Establishing and Using Virtual Cells which  
are Independent of the Cells Formed by the  
Spot Beams Generated by the Satellite

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEMS  
IN A NON-PROVISIONAL APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the "Notice of Omitted Items" dated November 16, 2001, Applicants hereby submit a Drawing Change Authorization Request to add Figs. 3 and 4 to the above-identified application. It is believed that these figures were inadvertently included in related U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/974,934 that was filed concurrently with the above-identified application and incorporated by reference in the above-identified application. Applicants therefore submit that Figs. 3 and 4 are part of the present application as filed via this incorporation by reference.


Furthermore, Applicants note that these figures merely illustrate the subject matter already described in the specification as filed. For example, the steps set forth in the flowchart of Fig. 3 are described beginning at paragraph 27 on page 8 of the above-identified application as originally filed. Fig. 4 is briefly described in paragraph 18 of the above-identified application as illustrating interference detection points as shown in this figure, which are described throughout the application.

For all these reasons, Applicants submit that no new matter is being entered by the addition of Figs. 3 and 4 to the application. Also, as indicated in the Notice, it is recognized by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that Figs. 3 and 4 are not necessary for securing a filing date for the above-identified application. Accordingly, the inclusion of these figures should not affect the October 11, 2001 filing date of the above-identified application.

In addition, a Preliminary Amendment is being filed to remove an erroneous reference to Fig. 3 in paragraph 22 of the application.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number indicated below.

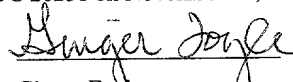
Respectfully Submitted,

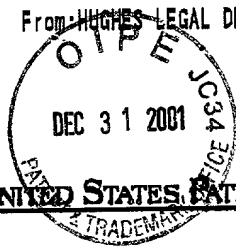
  
Craig L. Plastrik  
Reg. No. 41,254

HUGHES ELECTRONICS CORPORATION  
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El Segundo, CA 90245-0956  
Tel.: (301) 601-7252

Dated: 11/28/, 2001

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Ginger Fogle



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

**CONFIRMATION NO. 1007**

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**Date Mailed: 11/16/2001**

**FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)**

- Figure(s) 3, 4 described in the specification.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

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TOTAL 1505/060